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Nationwide Wiring Plan Made Public

WASHINGTON (AP) — A secret White House study of plans to wire every American home, car and boat into a central communications system under government control was made public Tuesday by Rep. William S. Moorhead, D-Pa.

The study, prepared for President Nixon's Domestic Council, envisions a "wired nation" that would provide the government with a disaster-warning system and a means of dispensing a wide variety of services and information.

It provides also, said Moorhead, a blueprint for a government-operated propaganda and spy system. He asked Nixon to inform the nation about the administration's intent and to make available more information about the plan.

The study in Moorhead's possession is stamped "Administratively Confidential" on each of its 300 pages. It is dated August 1971 and is described as a preliminary response to a request for the study by Dr. Edward E. David Jr., Nixon's science adviser.

David was unavailable for comment.

The study contains detailed descriptions of systems for sending letters by satellite; disseminating educational, cultural and social services through a public broadcasting network; alerting the nation or any locality to an impending disaster, and providing local police with information they need to combat crime.

The basis of the disaster-warning system discussed in the study is the required installation of a special receiver in every home radio and

television set and in every car and boat sold in the United States. The receivers could be turned on by the government to broadcast warnings and advice about disasters.

The study contains also charts of a proposed television network linking every state, city and home which would be the heart of a wide-ranging system of public-service programs, including special educational programs for children.

Throughout the study the authors, described merely as members of "working groups on government and commercial services and communications capabilities," described their efforts as aimed at making the most effective use of modern communications techniques in dealing with national problems.

They make only one brief reference to any concern that might arise over the issue of government invasion of privacy.

"There may be opposition to requiring receivers to be built into all radios and televisions," the study says. "This issue should be considered before the disaster-warning system proceeds to the development and investment stage."

Moorhead said that regardless of whatever good the proposed system may contain its potential for abuse requires a thorough airing in Congress before any steps are taken to implement it.

"This is a blueprint for the 'Big Brother' propaganda and spy system which George Orwell warned about in his novel '1984,'" Moorhead said. "But the government plan could put it into effect even earlier."